
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1986 No. 594

The Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986

PART III

PROVISION OF EDUCATION

Religious education in schools

Duties of teachers in controlled schools as to collective worship and religious instruction

22.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Article, the teachers in every controlled school other than^{F1} a controlled integrated school or^{F2} a nursery^{F2} . . . school, if so requested by ^{F3}the Authority^{F4} . . . , shall conduct or attend collective worship in the school and give undenominational religious^{F1} education] in the school but a teacher in a controlled school shall not be required to give religious^{F1} education] other than undenominational religious^{F1} education].

(2) A teacher who has, under paragraph (1), been required to conduct or attend collective worship or give undenominational religious^{F1} education], may make a request to the Board of Governors of the school in which he is serving to be wholly or partly excused from conducting or attending such worship or giving such^{F1} education] or both from conducting and attending such worship and giving such^{F1} education] and at the same time furnish to the Board of Governors for submission to ^{F3}the Authority^{F4} . . . a statutory declaration that his request to be so excused is made solely on grounds of conscience.

(3) Where a teacher makes a request under paragraph (2) and furnishes the statutory declaration required by that paragraph, the teacher shall, until the request is withdrawn, be excused in accordance with the request and whilst he is so excused shall not receive less emoluments or be deprived of, or disqualified for, any promotion or other advantage by reason of the fact that he does not conduct or attend collective worship or give undenominational religious^{F1} education].

(4) Where ^{F3}the Authority] is wholly or partly unable to arrange that the teachers in a school conduct the collective worship or give the undenominational religious^{F1} education] which it is required to provide in the school in accordance with the provisions of Article 21, ^{F3}the Authority] may, for the purpose of fulfilling its obligations under that Article, advertise for and appoint a teacher to conduct such collective worship or give such religious^{F1} education].

F1 1989 NI 20

F2 1996 NI 1

F3 Words in Order substituted (1.4.2015) by [Education Act \(Northern Ireland\) 2014 \(c. 12\)](#), [Sch. 3 para. 1\(1\)\(a\)](#) (with [Sch. 2 para. 4\(3\)](#), [Sch. 3 para. 1\(2\)](#)); S.R. 2015/35, art. 2(b)

F4 Words in art. 22(1)(2) repealed (1.4.2015) by [Education Act \(Northern Ireland\) 2014 \(c. 12\)](#), [Sch. 4](#) (with [Sch. 2 para. 4\(3\)](#)); S.R. 2015/35, art. 2(b)

Changes to legislation: *The Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986, Section 22 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 16 May 2023. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)*

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C1 Art. 22 amendment continued (1.8.2006) by [Education \(Northern Ireland\) Order 2006 \(S.I. 2006/1915 \(N.I. 11\)\)](#), arts. 1(2), 44(1), **Sch. 2 para. 3**

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Order associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Order (including any effects on those provisions):

- Sch. 18 repealed in part by [S.I. 2003/435 \(N.I.\) art. 49\(2\)](#)Sch. 2
- [art.77\(3\)](#) revoked by [S.I. 1996/2967 reg.11\(7\)](#)